

James Kerkman

Represents: *The interests of persons who are members of the Society of American Foresters*
Society of American Foresters

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James Kerkman was born in Kenosha, WI and grew up in Racine County, graduating from Burlington High School. He attended the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, earning a bachelor's degree in forest management in 1982. He then spent three years in temporary positions with the USDA Forest Service in New Mexico and northern Wisconsin before starting a full-time position at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. He is retired from federal service in 2020 after working as the forestry technician and forester for the US Army at Fort McCoy since 1985. In 2011, Governor Walker appointed James to represent the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters (WISAF) on the Council. WISAF is a chapter of the larger national organization that has approximately 10,000 members. As a member of WISAF, he held various leadership positions including the Wisconsin State Chairperson, was elected a Society of American Foresters Fellow in 2015, and has been a Certified Forester since 2001. The Society of American Foresters has been in existence since 1900 with Gifford Pinchot as one of the founding members. The Society's mission is to advance sustainable management of forest resources through science, education, and technology, promoting professional excellence while ensuring the continued health, integrity, and use of forests to benefit society in perpetuity.